

CHARLESTON

Green Business Challenge



2014 - 2015

Participant
Achievements



- have state of the art zoned ductless systems with a very high SEER rating.
- systems are on a programmable thermostat and used only when someone is in the room.
- only draw hot water for one sink, the bathroom sink. uses an Aqua Source, point source on demand water heater.
- have a start/up - shut/down schedule for the building which requires the last person out at night to go through and make sure all electronics - including printers are off or unplugged



- Added an additional member to their employee green team
- Performed a total LED refit of their building
- Installed a community bicycle rack as well as an air pump for bicycle tires
- Installed permeable paving surfaces as well as planted drought resistant plantings



Intelligent
Real Estate
Solutions

- Reduced our energy usage by over 1 600 KWH compared to last year
- Increased our recycling over 35% compared to the previous year
- Our waste was reduced by 4% over the previous year
- We have an ink cartridge recycling program that donates spent cartridges to local schools for proper recycling



- All 13 of our employees are members of our green team and educated in sustainable practices
- Recycling and composting bins are placed next to our green tea station to reduce our waste



BENEFITFOCUS®

- We currently hold quarterly meetings for our green team- currently consists of 15 employees from various departments
- Benefitfocus Wheel eNewsletter distributed to the entire company on a weekly basis and includes green news and sustainable initiatives
- A new high efficiency water heater was installed this year in our building to reduce our energy usage

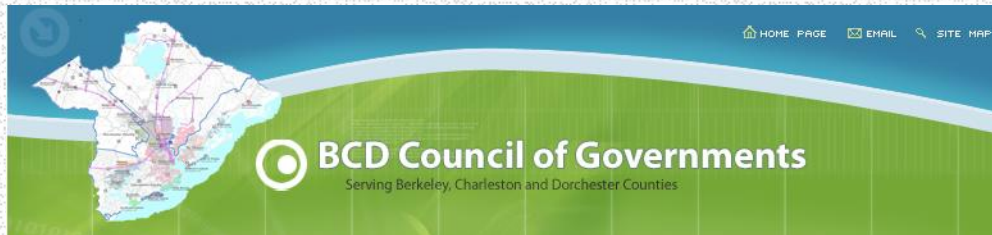


Berkeley Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



- All of our used florescent light bulbs are taken to the Bees Ferry Landfill for proper recycling
- Recycling bins are in place in all office buildings as well as warehouses- even our scrap aluminum and copper is reused and recycled
- We have Solar PV Net Metering; we interconnect with members who install solar systems and carry over surplus kWh to the next month. We have a once per year reset: June 1 System wide we are up to 45: about 1/3rd are in Charleston county.



- Our employees work diligently to ensure ALL lights are turned out when the last person leaves the office
- Sustainability awareness is promoted through our “Caught Green Handed” initiative. Employees are recognized for implementing sustainable practices
- We added additional recycling bins around the office
- Proud sponsor of the Trident Rideshare Program



- Added additional recycling stations for confidential papers
- Tracked water and energy use against previous year
- Switched to a completely electric system for our employees to track their expenses
- Introduced online ordering for their CSA



- Innovative use of compost- we compost ALL of our floral waste
- We have a zero waste goal at every event in which we participate
- We try and recycle everything-even spent candle wax!



- BSC is a Zero to Waste Landfill site, and is also a **100% renewable energy site**
- The Final Assembly building features a solar installation that produces up to **2.6 MW** of electricity for the site.
- All new construction is certified LEED Gold or Silver
- Hardware is now being sorted for recycling or reuse



- Our entire staff are members of our green team
- We used gravel instead of impermeable paving surfaces
- Our use of permeable surfaces helps to filter storm water runoff

- **Reduced** our electric usage by over 45 **million** KWH.
- This is enough to power over **4000** homes for an entire year
- We recycle our noncontact cooling water to water several acres of trees and grasses- this allows us to reduce our water discharge by **12%** per year

Charles Ramberg Furnituremaker

- We continuously look to lower our carbon footprint and advise customers to look at the overall sustainability of their projects
- We always look for ways to use less raw materials and reuse existing materials
- Added additional skylights for greater use of natural light and clean them to enhance effectiveness
- Compost leftover wood



- We purchase only recycled paper products
- Continuously promote other local businesses and use them for our events
- We have worked to reduce our paper usage and now many industry updates, newsletters, and magazines are received digitally



Headquarters

- Actively promotes recycling and waste reduction to its staff and its park patrons using traditional recyclables
- We introduced a zero waste plan for all meetings
- ALL of our paper products are now compostable!



Wannamaker

- Installing LEDs and CFLS
- Have metered faucets, low flow toilets and faucets depending on the age of the facility
- Promote buying and eating local



Operations Division

- established a bigger and better green team
- enforce a no idling protocol
- have 54 propane power buses
- retro-commissioned water source heat pumps and cooling tower that was installed in 2012.
- installed Variable Refrigerant Frequency(VRF) HVAC systems on new office space brought online this year. It is exceptionally efficient (near 25 SEER).
- Plug Misers were installed
- More green and local purchasing including school lunches from local farms.
- revised our design guidelines to include LEED practices- all new construction will be built to LEED Silver

Administration

- Among other initiatives, their green team held the following 4 awareness campaigns this year
 - Kick the (Trash) Can
 - Wellness
 - Commingling awareness
 - Green Business Bulletin board
 - Cardboard Composting & Shredding Campaign.
 -
- This is their first year to have merged with their wellness committee.



- We are a member of the Upper Peninsula Initiative's taskforce for locally sourced materials
- Our volunteers ensure hazardous waste is properly recycled
- We have implemented a no idling policy



- promote Bike Month
- monitor idling using GPS systems
- wastewater treatment by-products are now taken to an energy digester to produce electricity, which is placed on the electrical grid - approximately 16,000 tons of material were diverted from the landfill



- Live their mission
- Host bike promotion and advocacy events
- Buy local



Circular Congregational Church

- Have a long range plan that they are implementing including sustainability and preservation initiatives
- Held a lighting audit and are currently working to convert our lighting systems to low power LEDs
- Have solar powered walkway lights
- We have three bikes on our church grounds as well as hold an annual blessing of the bikes for the community
- We now compost for each church event

City of Charleston 75 Calhoun 3rd Floor



- piloted composting for 6 weeks for an entire floor. Thank you Cycles Compost.
- Kicked the (trash) can
- Donated vast amounts of offices supplies
- Recycled vigorously pre move Thank you Charleston County.
- The Green Team was critical in sharing this information.



Hazel Parker Playground

Department of Recreation



- have an Earth Day celebration each year, to teach their participants (children) about the importance of recycling.
- teach a program called, "I Love My Earth", to teach children about the importance of caring for our environment, and how they can help (save water, turn off lights to save electricity, etc).



- We are currently working to reduce our overall waste by replacing many of our garbage bins with recycling bins
- We recycle all of our empty ink cartridges
- We are working towards replacing all of our incandescent bulbs to either florescent or LED bulbs
- We work to ensure all of our lights are turned off at the end of each workday



- Our Vision: "Building a sustainable future through education, collaborative research, strategic partnerships, workforce development, and accelerating new technologies to market."
- Our Energy Innovation Center (EIC) is Gold LEED certified.
- We have broke ground on the new Zucker Family Graduate Education Center (GEC), which will also be LEED certified.



- For our new brewery we have made arrangements with a local farm to take the spent grains for feed.
- We compost all coffee grounds at a variety of gardens: schools, farms and home gardens.
- Coffee chafe is a by-product which is good for azaleas and any very acidic plant – light and lofty. It is used by local landscaping services.



- We have reduced our carbon footprint by over 100 points this year
- Our employees have worked to lower our energy consumption by lower/raising the thermostat in winter/summer
- We have switched to all green cleaning products



- Bicycles are used for showings downtown depending on the location, weather, and number of people
- We have completely eliminated styrofoam from our events and all plastic utensils are recycled
- All of our printing services are local, right here on the peninsula



OCRM and EQC



- Staff use hybrids vehicles for travel and fieldwork
- OCRM Staff clean a section of beach at the Isle of Palms for the Adopt-a-Beach Program (logo attached)
- As an agency, we promote marine debris prevention and mitigation
- Caught "Green Handed" award program
- Bike-n-Lunch events, supporting local eateries





And Blue Turtle Yoga

- purchase recycled materials
- clean with green products
- have a mission of health through fitness



- Started composting this year
- Participate in soap and shampoo recycling program
- Buy local
- Recycling containers in all rooms
- Conservation program with clients



- We sell biodiesel from our store
- We are currently working on indoor lighting, switching over from incandescence & florescent to LEDs. We are doing research on roof coverings to reflect heat and prolong roof life
- We often find pianos that have been misused. To reduce waste to landfill, we partnered with two local artist- a woodworker and metalworker who are able to re-purpose these instruments into art pieces.



- We are involved on the state level bringing environmental education in to schools.
- We educate our community on environmental issues and support local environmental endeavors.
- We run our web site on 100% wind-powered servers.

- Ironclad commitment to manufacturing sustainable, earth-friendly products
- We use 100% post-consumer recycled plastics, earth-friendly fabrics, azo-free dyes, biodegradable shampoos and pet waste bags, recycled fill inserts for our beds and toys, and 100% recycled materials for our collars and leashes



- We have been chosen to participate in the NYNOW 2015 "Made in the USA Display" and we have just been chosen to be in the "SustainAbility: Design for a Better World" exhibit for our new pine cone dog toy. We had four items chosen for the NYNOW 2014 Summer "Sustainability Display"
- We use local embroiderers and manufacturers as well as local printers, reducing our carbon footprint
- Use recycled packaging supplies and reuse shipping materials



HERITAGE TRUST
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Green Committee

- Implemented a used toner cartridge recycling program to benefit Charleston County schools
- Converted all exterior light fixtures to operate off of photocells
- We recycle the banker boxes utilized in our warehouse.
- Newspapers are sent to the SPCA to be used for the animals.



- buy local
- compost on site
- recycle their fry oil
- done a waste assessment. You can't reduce what you don't understand.



HISTORIC CHARLESTON FOUNDATION



- hangs a poster in the front of its headquarters during the months of July and August to encourage people to use passive measures to cool their houses such as closing shutters
- actively open and close windows and shutters at one of our properties throughout the year to reduce energy consumption from lights and heat being buy local
- working with a local church to establish a community garden on Romney St





Mt Pleasant

- The roof collects rainwater that is used for irrigation
- Native vegetation used in the landscaping
- We now use biodegradable breakfast plates
- We work to use local vendors as well as direct guests to local businesses



- crusader for recycling- getting their business neighbors in Avondale to recycle
- their office doubles as an art gallery.
- they buy either repurposed, recycled, compostable or energy star rated



- helps many others with their goals of lowering their footprint.
- the team uses technology to lower the office's footprint
- they resort to time honored techniques such as closing blinds to reduce heat gain in the hotter month



- We are currently working towards our zero waste initiative- we are almost there!
- Our food waste is taken to the Bees Ferry compost facility
- We work to recycle all of our paper towels
- Many of our employees downtown use bicycles to get to work

catherine e lafond

catherine e lafond, pa
Attorney at Law

- Had an energy assessment walk through and began implementation
- Adopt a Highway volunteers
- Recycling confidential files
- Incoming faxes come as pdfs

Latto and Associates, Inc.

- Environmentally sensitive investment offerings
- Walks with clients to local restaurants
- Buys reused furnishings



Lime
and Lotus

- purchase energy star equipment
- operate a paperless system
- use toxic and chemical free cleaning products

- Detailed Environmental Policy Statement and monthly environmental committee meetings.
- The entire office took “no idling” and “bring your own bag” pledge
- We have 1 office in SC with 11 LEED Accredited Professionals included on our staff of 24.
- Every design from our firm includes elements of energy conservation & sustainability even when the client is not seeking LEED Accreditation.
- Regularly donate product samples and used office furniture for re-use



Lodge Alley Inn

- Rejuvenated their green team
- Keep appliances unplugged when not in use
- Use smart strips



- Sustainable Agriculture: shortening the distance between you and your food
 - Farmer apprentice program, Dirt Works Incubator, Farm Consumer education
- Local Economic Development: investing in businesses that reinvest in the Lowcountry
 - Implementing 'Local Procurement' policies with government and institutions
 - Local Works shared workspace community
 - Local purchasing: office supplies, event supplies, management of payroll, & other business services



- dramatically decreased their energy needs
- eliminated the use of plastic retail bags

Lulan Artisans

- Worked with SCE&G to get energy efficient light bulbs at a price business could support
- Natural hand-woven fabrics, including silks, organic cotton and linen, are unique works of art. Each piece is hand-dyed and expertly woven using low-impact, artisan-quality materials
- Water is reused as well as dyes.
- We also sell recycled rice grass bags and mosquito net bags which would typically end up in landfills

LUXURY SIMPLIFIED

- replacing hvac units with more energy efficient ones
- use cloth handtowels
- most important - they have goals set for more improvements in the future

- Did a waste inventory
- Purchases recycled materials
- Focus on reducing waste
- Turn off lights and note the carbon emission savings from doing so-0.15 pounds per hour
- Green team is organized with a distinct focus for each leader



Dental College

- Low flow toilets and faucets
- Composting for MUSC's Urban Farm.
- Each floor coordinates their purchases to cut down on shipping
- MUSC received a green business award from SC DHEC this year



NATURE ADVENTURES

OUTFITTERS

- We use water from the creek to keep our boat ramp clean- eliminated the need for city water.
- Reusable dry bags are provided instead of disposable plastic bags
- We reuse lawn chairs that wash up in Shem Creek



NATURAL
INVESTMENTS^{LLC}

- Solar panels
- Electric powered vehicles
- Goals for next year
- Environmentally sensitive investments

NORTHBRIDGE DENTAL



- started biking to work
- unplug appliances not in use
- great start for next year with their goals
- .



- found an affordable way to purchase 100 % recycled toilet paper and other papers
- installing more tankless toilets
- now have 6 composting bins going in their kitchens
- make their own cleaners
- are gardening where they once had a parking
- switching to more vegan products and further decreasing their footprint



- from policies
- to composting
- to using their own herbs
- to no idling
- to energy efficiency and
- to what they do best offer great food that is intentionally focused on sustainable options

PRESERVATION ESTD SOCIETY 1920 *of* CHARLESTON

- Preservationists' motto is "first option is to repair; second is to replace."
- The idea is to communicate the retention and reuse of materials as opposed to replacing with new materials.
- Preservationists have been into sustainability a long time.
- Check out their Green Preservation web page
<http://www.preservationsociety.org/green/>



- recycling printer cartridges, batteries, and cell phones
- switched to washable microfiber towels instead of disposable paper towels.
- Goal of working towards creating "green" cloud GIS hosting services that are powered by renewable energy



- All normally unoccupied spaces such as conference rooms, storage rooms, file rooms, etc. utilize both infrared and motion detection occupancy sensors so the lights are only consuming energy when someone is in the space. Largely due to increased focus of recycling/reuse of office materials and industrial recycling
- We are not generating with solar panels onsite. However, we are planning for generating solar power at Leeds Avenue in the 2015. 500 kW will be installed at Leeds Ave, North Charleston by SCE&G in 2015-16.
- Water saving drip irrigation technology with Rainbird controls is used throughout the landscape in all bedding areas
- We have electric car charging stations for our EnergyWise car.

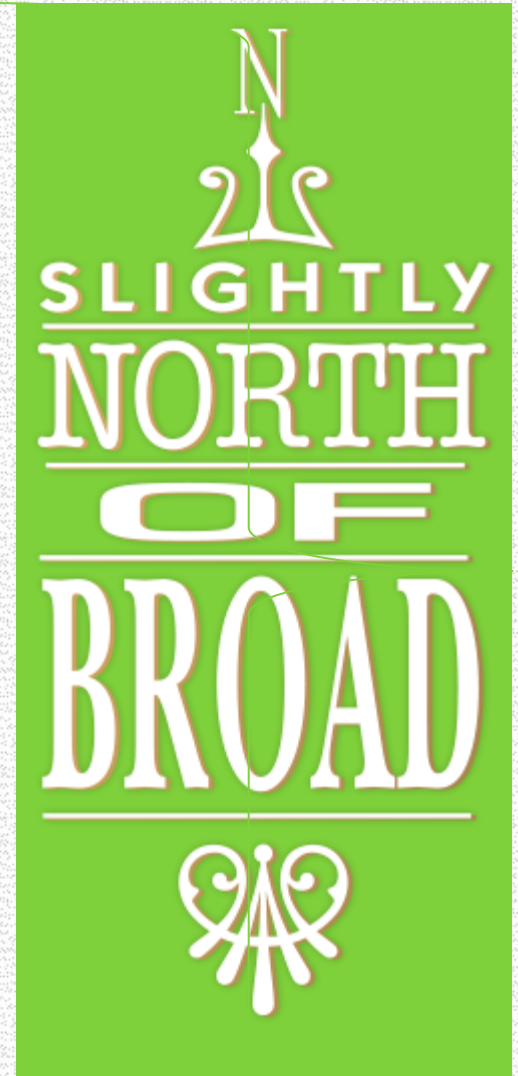


- create an air emissions calculator that customers can use to calculate their reduced emissions by shipping via rail
- installed a new air monitor at union pier to evaluate cruise ships
- participated in the Coalition for Responsible Transportation supply chain sustainability efforts
- Began implementation of stand up desks
- donated to dolphin research, land conservation, to the SC Aquarium, Charleston Waterkeeper, Lowcountry open Land Trust and Center for Birds of Prey



- Huge supporter of Johns Island Farmers Market
- Had an energy walk through
- Buy local

- Feed employees a wholesome meal
- A fantastic environmentally preferred purchasing policy



SOCCER CONNECTS LLC

BUILDING COMMUNITY AROUND THE BEAUTIFUL GAME

- Volunteer at Urban Farm and Keep Charleston Beautiful
- Use wind powered web hosting company
- Turn off vehicle and ac as much as can
- Use ceiling fans
- Plant drought resistant landscaping
- Buy recycled and reused



- Customer appreciation uses local vendors and reusable cups
- Volunteer with beach sweep as a company



- huge supporter of the MUSC Urban Farm
- performing cooking demos in the space, donating food for events and promote Health and Wellness on site
- provide meatless Monday options and vegetarian options daily
- had a reuseable cup drive, promoting their offer of drinks at a reduced price when patrons bring in their own cup. It promoted the need to avoid styrofoam.

THE LOLLIPOP TREE

- Accredited green purchasing professional
- design products that are non-toxic and sustainable, when possible
- cut down on dry cleaning almost entirely
- ask pest control if they can use natural products
- donates unneeded items and uses freecycle



- Composts, recycles and educates
- Invited two experts in to help them
- Use pervious pavers to minimize runoff impacts
- Installed new high-efficiency mini-split heat/AC system in Sanctuary
- installed programmable thermostats
- improving sustainable aspects of rental contracts for church facilities.

Whole Building Systems



- We turn off lights when we leave the office and set back the thermostat to an unoccupied temperature.
- We have recycling bins for glass/plastics/metals and paper located in our office kitchen.
- We have added paper recycling trays next to each office desk
- We always print double-sided
- Switch to cloth towels for both bathroom and kitchen



Check us out!

**GBC Year Begins
November 1st**

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Sensible Solutions for your Business and our Community